State Senator - Michael Prusi - 38th District Prusi Press Release

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SEN. PRUSI ANNOUNCES NEARLY \$2 MILLION IN TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANTS IN U.P.

Historic Sites will be Preserved and Safety Improvements Will Be Made

LANSING – State Senator Mike Prusi (D-Ishpeming) announced today that two counties in the Upper Peninsula will receive nearly \$2 million in funding to enhance local communities. Marquette and Menominee counties are among 23 Michigan counties that will benefit from more than \$11 million in federal Transportation Enhancement funding announced today by Gov. Jennifer Granholm. The funding will preserve historic sites, improve streetscapes, and fund other beautification projects beginning in 2007.

"This funding will help preserve the landscape and improve safety in communities unique to the Upper Peninsula," said Sen. Prusi. "It will help also grow our economy by creating jobs."

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will partner with cities and townships. Transportation Enhancement funds provide a maximum of up to 80-percent of the money required for each project. The remaining 20-percent will come from state and local government and the private sector.

In Marquette County, construction projects to restore the boulevard on Pine Street (M-35) from Maple Street to Granite Street in Forsyth Township to match its original architect designed landscape will total \$1,035,002. MDOT will provide \$258,750 of the funding, federal funds will provide \$776,252 and the township will contribute \$50,000. Enhancements will include decorative street lighting, landscaping, trees and restoration of the median.

The city of Menominee in partnership with MDOT will receive funding totaling \$654,560 to install streetscape amenities along approximately 1.1 miles of M-41 and improve safety and pedestrian access throughout the city of Menominee.

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Sen. Mike Prusi serves as Democratic Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He represents the 38th Senate District, which includes 13 of the 15 Upper Peninsula counties.